

ARTICLE APPEARED
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AMERICAN LIBRARIES
January 1977

Not the C.I.A.

"How to Call the Watchdogs" (Oct., p. 551) is apparently the result of erroneous information.

The allegation that an individual who identified himself as a Central Intelligence Agency representative attempted to determine what library materials were being used by a U.S. citizen was forwarded to this Agency by Rep. Bella Abzug, chairperson of the Subcommittee on Government Information and Individual Rights, on September 20, 1976.

A careful check within the Central Intelligence Agency failed to reveal any information that an Agency representative visited the library cited nor would such a visit be made to any other American library. It is clear that the individual was not an employee of this Agency. Impersonation of a Federal officer is, of course, a criminal offense, and Mrs. Abzug's letter was forwarded to the Justice Department for such action as they deem necessary. There is no indication that this Agency has ever been involved in the type of incident mentioned.

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